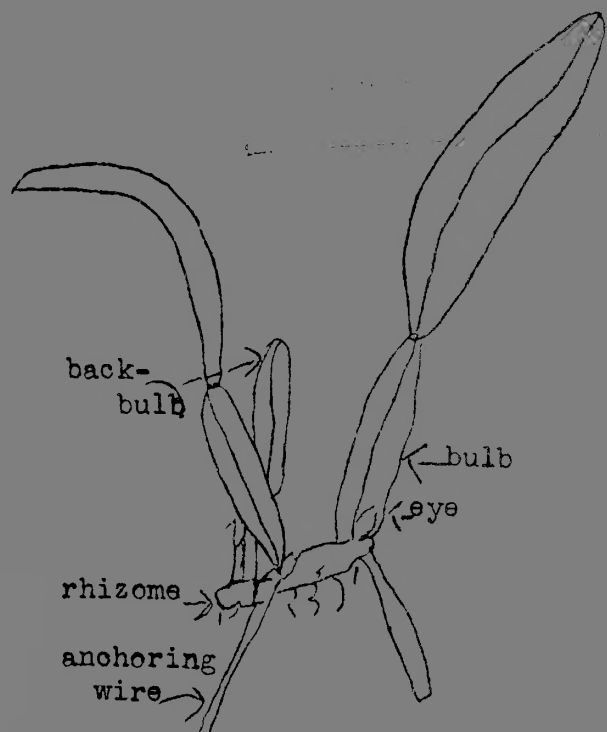


HYBRID CATTLEYA BACK BULB CUTTINGS

Are you one of the many who have found how easy and economical it is to acquire a well rounded collection of mature, blooming size hybrids via the BACK BULB ROUTE? Properly grown, a husky two-bulb cutting with a "live eye" will bloom in two years. (Many produce the first bloom by the end of one year but usually it is not a very large or representative bloom!)

Article J in your folder refers to back bulbs and gives suggestions for starting them. Silvecon stimulates root growth on back bulbs faster than osmunda. Directions for potting rootless back bulb cuttings in silvecon are as follows:



1. Choose pot large enough to allow room at front of cutting for two new leaves. Fill pot $\frac{1}{2}$ full of coarse, smooth pebbles, charcoal, or Vanua size Silvecon.

2. Finish filling pot two-thirds full of thoroughly wet, medium coarse Silvecon, packing and tamping it down into pot firmly with thumbs. Fasten a curved piece of wire across the cutting's rhizome, but do not cut the rhizome. Make a sort of spread levered "croquet wicket" of the wire, forcing the "leg" down into the pot through drainage holes, bending wire up to anchor in place. (See pages 9 and 10A).

3. Pack more wet fir bark under and around the wire and up to the sides of the rhizome but do not bury rhizome or "eye!" (The eye can be covered with dark brown skin and still be live, if firm to the touch.)

4. Push wire stake into fir bark next to pot, at the back of the cutting. Tie the bulbs to the stake

so that they stand upright. Is plant now firm in the pot? If it is loose and wobbles when the pot is moved, new roots will break as rapidly as they form, and the plant will not grow and bloom as it should.

While back bulb cuttings accumulate as potting goes on, so no regular listing of hybrids can be submitted, every one will be a husky Cattleya type cutting with at least one live eye. Each cutting will have two or more bulbs; one or more leaves. State preference if you would rather have all white, white-colored-lip or colored hybrids and I'll try my best to comply with your wishes. If no color preference is stated, I'll select the best color assortment I can for you. (Don't ask for yellows or reds, please. They are scarce, temperamental and EXPENSIVE!)

Each cutting will carry its correct name tag and will be CATTLEYA, LAELIOCATTLEYA, BRASSOCATTLEYA or BRASSOLAELIOCATTLEYA. You will receive no duplicates unless you request all Whites, when it might be necessary to send two or more of a kind.

Cuttings will be accompanied by Silvecon and Uramite, wire stakes and anchoring wires, unless you request they be omitted to cut down shipping weight.

Six Hybrid Cuttings..... \$10.00
(Parcel Post charges to be refunded.)
Twenty Hybrid Cuttings..... \$25.00
(Shipping charges collect.)

30 or more, \$1.00 per cutting, charges collect.

BONUS! With your back bulb order that amounts to \$25.00 or more, I'll include one EXTRA cutting ALREADY ESTABLISHED AND GROWING in its pot. Paper or foil is used to keep the fir bark from rattling out of the pot but remove it when plant arrives!

Please Note: If you follow instructions, every cutting should grow for you, but since they are unrooted, and we have no personal control over the way they are handled, no guarantees can be made in connection with yours.

